Elegy for a Street Survivor (Yume)

Color / Sound / 45 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-82-7

This piece follows the strange memorial that takes place after Yume, a homeless man who had been a "Buddhist hippie" dies of respiratory distress. His friends gather to perform odd rituals such as passing out his last pack of cigarettes, burning money in his honor, etc. As their feelings and tributes are expressed, the little knot of street people begins to take on the aspects of a Felliniesque procession. A fascinating addition to annals of contemporary sociology as well as an absorbing tale.

Entering Oakland

Color / sound / 50 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-31-2

A documentary about the problems of African Americans in Oakland and a look at the city itself. The narration is partly by James Baldwin. Much music.

Runaways and More Runaways

Color / Sound 58 min / ISBN 1-889059-40-4

Runaways takes a close look at the lives and hopes of a group of young people who have left their homes all over the United States to come to Berkeley, a place which used to give a measure of entitlement to the homeless of all ages. They are all different, Raven, Sweetleaf, Jeremy, Doug and the others, but they share a rebellious nature, a combination of innocence and weary cynicism, and a tendency to get into trouble with the law (often not their fault) since citations for trespassing usually means they've found a place to sleep that isn't legal.

When I've been a guest speaker at various universities, some students invariably ask me who I consider to be the best contemporary author. I always hedge my reply and name five or six and Claire Burch is always on the short list. No one thoroughly familiar with Claire Burch's work would disagree.

I recall "starvation days" in New York City when Claire and James Baldwin and I struggled with early efforts. I remember Jimmy and I agreeing that of the three of us Claire had the only claim to genius. I have been aware during the intervening years of her extraordinary work, both in prose and the visual arts, dealing with the plight of the homeless and dispossessed. She has always had a unique sympathy for them. If anything, this has given her deeper insights and understandings which, coupled with her artistic gifts, have led to a body of rare accomplishments. I consider it somewhat of a national disgrace that her work has not received the attention and acclaim it deserves." **– Elliot Baker, author *A Fine Madness***

Claire Burch was Associate Producer of the theatrical documentary motion picture *Timothy Leary's Dead*. Claire's contributions to the film were invaluable; it could not have been made without her.

Not only did Claire provide original materials she had shot that were included as sequences in the movie, but as an archivist and documentarian, she helped locate and acquire essential historical clips. Claire Burch is an experienced documentary filmmaker in her own right, having dedicated many years to documenting of the homeless in Berkeley, as well as tackling other socially meaningful topics.

Claire is extraordinarily gifted in many fields, including music and art. Her songs, "Barefoot Through the Haight" and "Remembering the Summer of Love", appear on the soundtrack of my film. These haunting and memorable songs are but a small fraction of Claire's body of work of musical composition.

Several of her original works of art appear in the movie as well. She dubs the works her "Unusual People" collection, abstracts of people in which their personal boundaries are erased, and they have literally become part of one another.

This letter is both a recommendation and an appeal that Claire's work in music, art and social documentary filmmaking find support through grants and other resources, so that she may continue her special contribution to our understanding of the plight of humanity. **– Paul Davids, Producer, Director *Timothy Leary's Dead***

Video Catalog
Claire Burch Films

REGENT PRESS

PRODUCED BY ART & EDUCATION MEDIA INC.

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REGENT PRESS • 6020-A Adeline • Oakland, CA 94608 • FAX 510-547-6357 • Phone 510-547-7602

"Documenting the hard, mercenary and uncaring social realities at the end of the twentieth century, Claire Burch fearlessly offers us a view into the cracked mirror of the American dream. Issues far too important to ignore, come to vivid and insistent life in Claire's incisive and empathetic investigations. Her work needs to be seen by the many, not the few."

Steven Starr, *Filmmaker*

"Your essential gift, I should say, is that you restore a sense of importance and diginity to personal relationships and personal concerns. I thank you for the emotional and spiritual food you have given me."

Norman Cousins, *Saturday Review*

"I was impressed with Claire Burch's painstaking and voluminous work as a video artist and also by her extensive documenting and collecting of art made by homeless people. She has a longstanding involvement with the arts in the community, particularly communities at risk."

Julie Mackaman, *Film Arts Foundation*

"I liked Claire Burch's video about the Berkeley street people. Well done! Burch created a sympathetic picture of those street wackos. The bits of text that she had were good too. Well chosen words. It was heartbreaking to witness. I was deeply touched by the woman's appreciation of the typical R. Crumb perverted little man chasing after the big woman. In her own plain proletarian manner that was more uplifting to me than all the intellectual bullshit of art critics ever written. I loved that woman for what she said. Fuckin' loved her man. Who is that woman???"

R. Crumb, *Underground Comix Artist*

Congrats : on thinking globally and acting locally. On picking important subjects; on not giving up.

Pete Seeger, Folksinger / Songwriter

Catalog design by Christopher Sorrenti

Photographs, images and text by Claire Burch

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Art and Education Media Inc.

A public educational nonprofit making documentaries about street survivors since 1979. The owls have their habitat in America. Frogs and butterflies are similarly protected by law. But on the streets of Berkeley, California, as in other cities today, people who are on the fringe wander about, often without a place to go. Since their stories pull no punches, our archives show us how, in twentieth century America, human beings are now our most endangered species.

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The James Baldwin Anthology

Color / Sound / 2 hrs / ISBN 1-889059-30-7

(includes four pieces on a two hour tape)

Return Of James Baldwin

16 minutes

The intense voice of James Baldwin answering remarks by Malcolm X in 1961, set to historically relevant and amazing images. The piece includes a series of mixed media collages derived from a photo of him at age eighteen, taken by the filmmaker. It also includes brief excerpts from Burch's bitter poetry titled *The Gettysburg Variations*. These were done by her as a memorial after his death in 1987.

Patience and Shuffle the Cards

40 minutes

The complete speech given by Mr. Baldwin as a self-described "disturber of the peace" at UC Berkeley in 1979. His host at the time was Professor Erskine Peters, then Chairman of the Department of African American Studies, who later read so movingly from Baldwin's work, in the piece titled *James Baldwin on Racism in America*.

James Baldwin On Racism in America

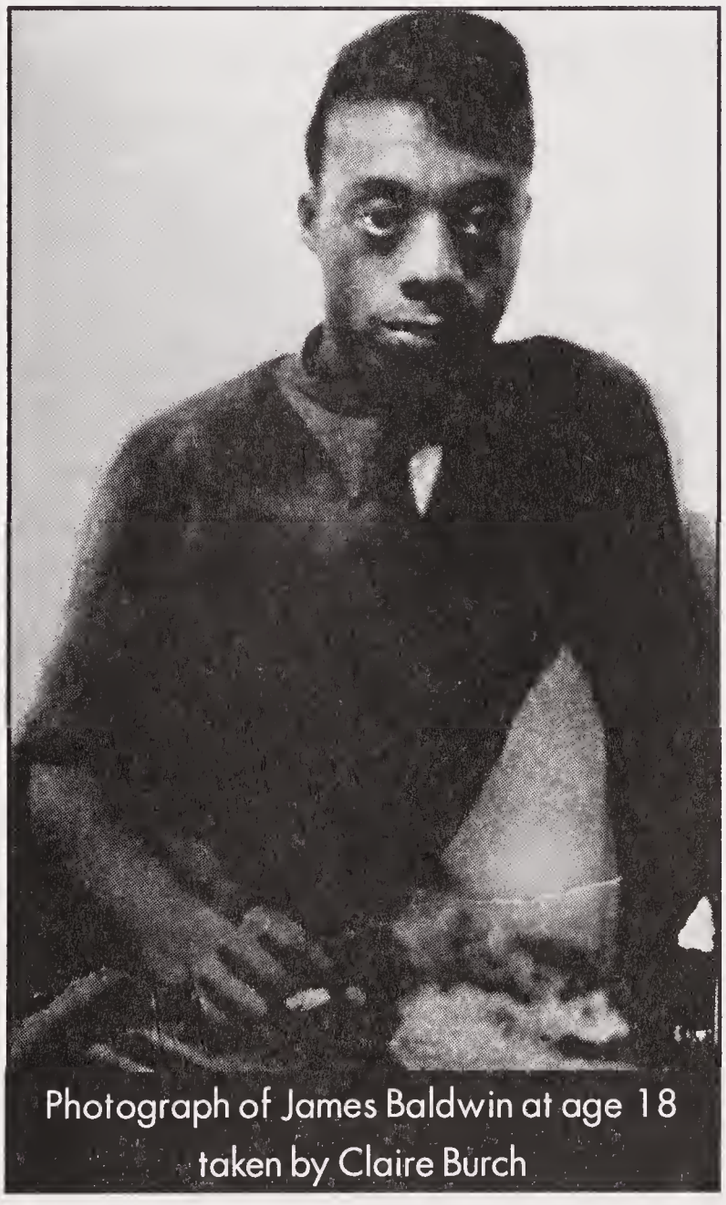
43 minutes

A celebration of the ideas of James Baldwin, punctuated by original music and a ride through the city of Oakland during one of his visits. Also including additional fragments of his work read by Professor Peters, and a narration by Mr. Baldwin. This piece is a memorial to both.

The Amazing Art of Beauford Delaney
David Leeming Reads from His Biography of James Baldwin

20 minutes

David Leeming, author of *JAMES BALDWIN, a Biography* (Alfred Knopf, 1994) narrates an incident involving the African American painter Beauford Delaney and James Baldwin. Stills of the artwork of this little known painter are interspersed throughout. Of Beauford Delaney, Henry Miller wrote, "His work is amazing. It is sad that the last years of his life had to be spent in a psychiatric unit."



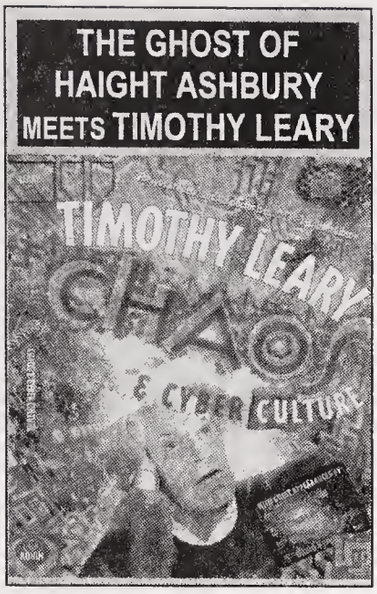
Photograph of James Baldwin at age 18 taken by Claire Burch

Behind The Bandbox

Color / Sound / 80 minutes / ISBN 1-58790-039-4

Behind the Bandbox is a raw controversial film that spans ten years in the lives of three Berkeley street survivors, Chelsea, Cobra, and the Infamous Bones. This chilling record shows three people you will never forget. The film takes a fierce look at childhood molestation, includes never before revealed information about the Zodiac Killer, and secrets of a well known Bay Area family. It also shows the long term problems of a talented young street artist who has frequent seizures, had twenty-seven surgeries for a childhood brain tumor and is still facing constant police harassment for sleeping outside, since his disability check (just cut off) was not enough to afford both food and shelter.

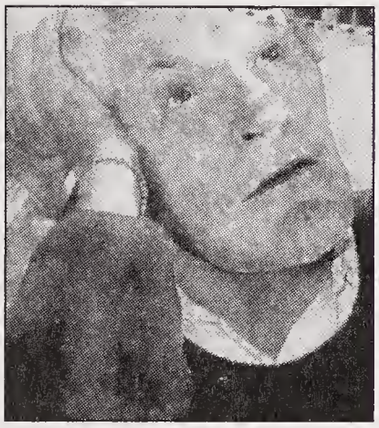
Follow heart wrenching street moments as the camera notes the amazing lives of three against the world. Long term activist Chelsea and her son Cobra have sold their drawings on the streets of Berkeley, often for spare change to eat, since he was eleven, right after his father was the first person to be killed on BART. Their unflinching honesty and disingenuous complete disregard of camera, show street life at its most intense. Provocative, outspoken, wild, this film of Chelsea, Cobra, and Bones, captures the vitality of three startling survivors of tragedy. We watch as they confront each obstacle life throws them, often with wit, four letter words, bravery and grace. Here is an in depth look at these rebels who struggle with being star shaped in a square holed world. These three, Chelsea, Cobra, and Bones, have personalities like the gears of a machine that doesn't always work. Friends finding their way out of darkness, a gritty view of life. And as R. Crumb put it, admiringly, "Who is that woman?"



The Ghost Of Haight Ashbury Meets Timothy Leary

Color / Sound 120 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-25-0

Claire Burch writes: In 1997 and 1998 I was able to film Dr. Leary whenever he was in the San Francisco area. This material began to assume assorted forms and eventually became the basis for the pieces on this tape. Like his own thinking, they are not all rooted in "straight reality". Both his words and images are collaged against psychedelic overlays that preoccupied his vision until the end. Photo courtesy of Ronin Publishing.



Ghost of the SF Oracle Meets Timothy Leary

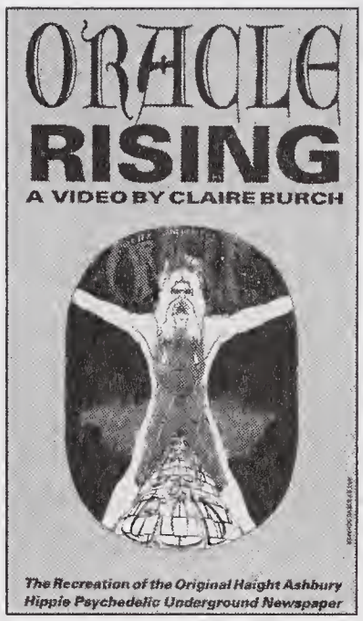
Color / Sound / 45 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-75-4

Partly surreal documentation of a book-signing by Timothy Leary at Cody's Bookstore in Berkeley. The book is *Chaos and Cyberculture* (Ronin Publishing, Berkeley, 1994). The "Ghost" consists of images from the Facsimile Edition of the old Haight Ashbury *San Francisco Oracle*, published by Regent Press.

To Save Jack Kerouac's Daughter

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-90-8

Archival documentation of a benefit to save Jan Kerouac, daughter of Jack, by raising money to get her a kidney transplant. Ken Kesey, Paul Krassner, Allen Cohen, editor of the old *Oracle*, Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Tony Seldin and others present tributes to Jack Kerouac. Poet Gerald Nicosia, who organized the concert, describes the controversy concerning a "conspiracy" involving the will of the author of *On the Road*.



Oracle Rising
The Recreation of the Haight Ashbury Underground Newspaper

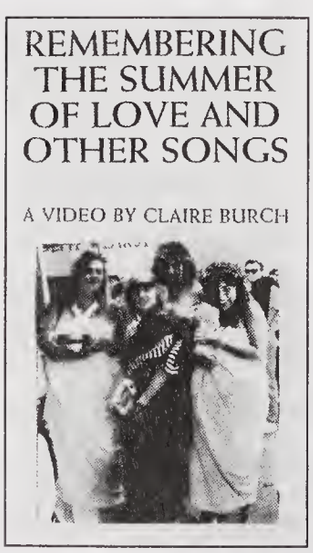
Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-28-2

Oracle Rising is of historical interest to libraries, universities and collectors worldwide. It chronicles through music, psychedelic images and narration, the unforgettable phenomenon of Haight Ashbury in the 60's. The film contains images of *Oracle* pages superimposed on historical events, plus footage of the famous Human Be In. It is filled with exciting archival footage of the "Summer of Love." This unusual film celebrates another creative achievement, the publishing by Regent Press of *The Oracle Facsimile Edition.*

People's Park of Berkeley:
Then and Now

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-35-5

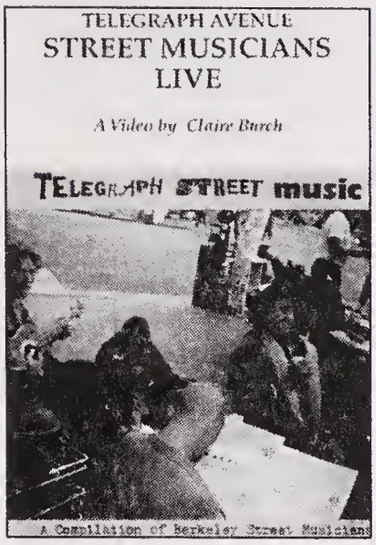
A kaleidoscope of past and present sociology concerning the origin of the Free Speech Movement in America. Contains music performed at the controversial park and a running commentary by historian Michael Rossman.



Remembering the Summer of Love and Other Songs by Claire Burch

Color / Sound / 30 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-49-5

A musical tribute to Bill Graham. Also includes several songs from her musical play, *It's a Blue to be Called Crazy when Crazy's All There Is.*



Telegraph Avenue Street Musicians
The Concert at Ashkenaz

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-83-5

A group of Telegraph Avenue street musicians get together to celebrate a C.D. done on a grant to empower the homeless. Their concert at Ashkenaz contains surreal documentary cut-ins that introduce rebellious social issues to the outward reality of their performance.

The People's Park
Anniversary Series

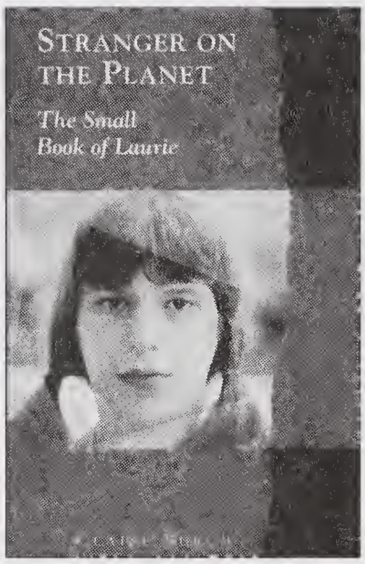
Color / Sound / 120 min / ISBN 1-889059-26-9

People's Park of Berkeley is known world wide because of its connection with the Free Speech Movement of the 60s. This two hour tape presents highlights of the annual event. Much music.

Poetry On Telegraph Avenue

Color / Sound 120 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-60-9

The magazine *Poetry Flash* sponsors a street reading, adjunct to the annual Telegraph Avenue Bookfair. Includes a spirited reading by Diane di Prima and Berkeley poet Charles Pappas.



STRANGER ON THE PLANET
The Story of Laurie

Color / Sound / 30 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-58-4

Laurie, who died of an overdose, was one of a huge group of people—strangers on this planet—who were always given what is called a "dual diagnosis," emotional problems and chemical dependency. You see them wander by, often in some dire emergency, often in pain. They live in a thousand places, go to hospitals for a few days, take a geographical escape often, hoping that a new place will make them better. They need more help than they get, and they need it now.

STREET SURVIVORS, MORE STREET SURVIVORS, & HISTORY OF A STREET SURVIVOR

Color / Sound / 90 minutes (in three parts, 30 minutes each) / ISBN 0-916147-51-7

A compassionate look at the people who go through life's most intense emotions on the streets of Berkeley, sometimes landing in hospitals, other times simply "expressing themselves" in an area that encourages more differences than the mainstream of American society.

THE TELEGRAPH AVENUE STREET CALENDAR LIVE

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-53-3

The filmmaker probes the soul of people on the street with her guerrilla camera and open heart. Includes the "Naked People" of Berkeley.

Thumbed a Ride to Heaven The Music of Alfonia Tims and Others

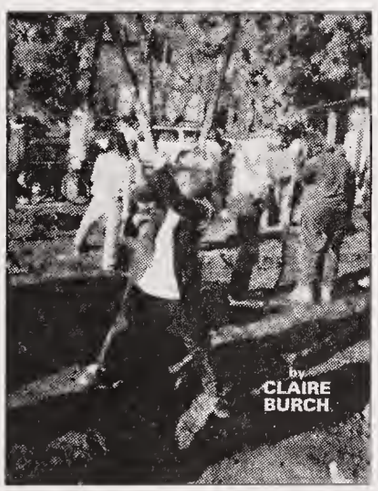
Color / Sound / 40 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-74-6

An all-music film which features the music composed and improvised by Alfonia Tims, a young African American musician, along with others. There are powerful visual cut-ins to this brilliant early funk music performed by several jazz musicians.

Alfonia

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-32-0

A memorial tribute to Alfonia Tims Jr., an innovative African American jazz musician who died at age 26, three weeks before release of his first highly praised and well received album. Includes early conversations, original music and other documentary material. The second half is titled *Anyhow What Was Your Dream, Alfonia?*

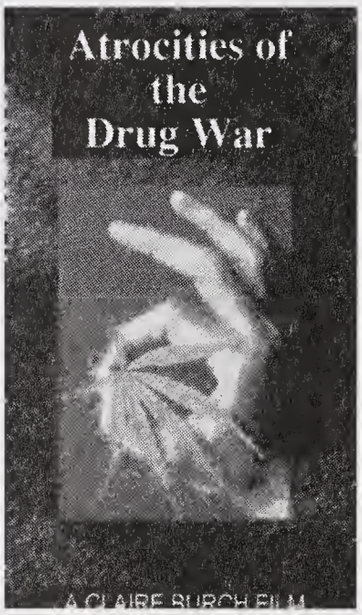


What Really Killed Rosebud?

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-66-8

Tells the story of Rosebud Abigail Denovo, a homeless young girl of 19 who was killed by an Oakland police officer on August 25, 1992. A later autopsy report revealed heavy discrepancies in the story given to the media.

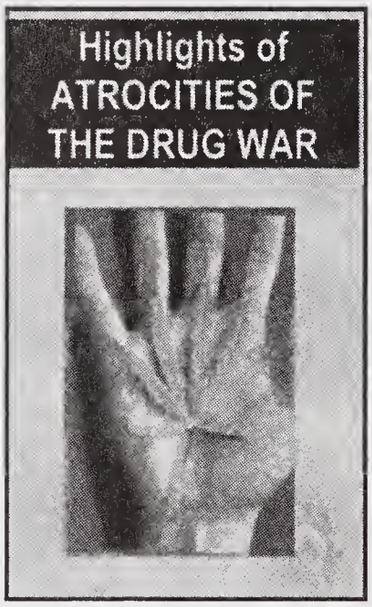
The piece interviews street survivors, Rosebud's boyfriend, her many friends from People's Park of Berkeley, and others, raising disturbing questions. It contains songs and incidental music, memorials by those who knew and loved her.



Atrocities of the Drug War
Ram Dass Speaks Out

Color / Sound / 30 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-86-X

Ram Dass (Richard Alpert) was one of the noted speakers at a Human Rights Forum conducted at Fort Mason Center in San Francisco in 1995. This piece communicates his moving and sensitive suggestions towards solutions to the injustices described in the Forum's exhibit of photographs and case histories.



Highlights of Atrocities of the Drug War

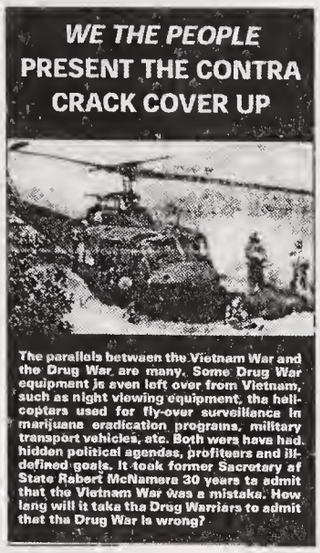
Color / Sound / 45 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-30-4

Paul Krassner, Jello Biafra and others continue the symposium begun by Ram Dass (Richard Alpert). Featuring photos from the exhibit *Give Peace A Chance*, set to readings of a new Human Rights Manifesto.

A Retrospective On Compassionate Medical Use of Marijuana

Color / Sound / 45 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-73-0

An historic evening at the Cannibis Buyer's Club in San Francisco. Among the speakers are Michael and Mrs. Aldrich, Dennis Perrone, and Dr. Ted Mikuria. Finally the state of California has legalised marijuana for compassionate, medical use.



The CIA Contra Crack Connection

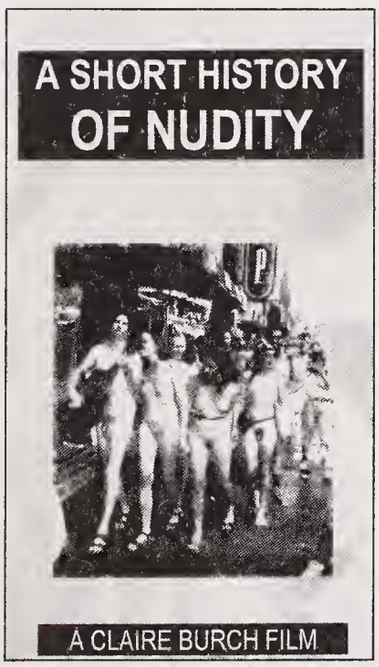
Color / Sound 120 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-57-9

The uncomfortable facts about the CIA/Contra Crack connection. Includes revelations by award winning investigative journalist Dennis Bernstein and former DEA agents as they blow the lid off government crack involvement. An exposé conducted by Oakland mayor and former governor Jerry Brown, at one of the *We The People* sessions.

Streetwise:
A World We Never Made

Color / Sound 58 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-42-0

A close look at people and events on Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley and Haight Street in San Francisco. Punctuated by original music and heartfelt encounters with street people, young and old.

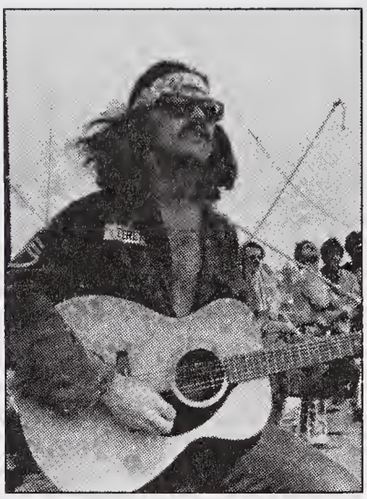


A Short History Of Nudity
A Short History Of Love

Color/ Sound 40 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-49-8

These jaunty spoofs celebrate the years of "The Naked People of Berkeley", a time when they walked about like Adams and Eves in the Garden of Eden, explaining that their cheerful decision to bare all, was protected by the First Amendment.

Photo by B.N. Duncan



Country Joe McDonald Plays Berkeley

Color / Sound / 80 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-84-3

Country Joe and his Band perform folk and folk rock favorites on a festive occasion, Earth Day, celebrating installation of the new "Peace Wall," a collection of peace tiles made by individuals in the Berkeley community. The video begins with a heart-stopping daring dance, by dancers secured by ropes, down the side of a high adjacent building. Additional concerts are included.

Country Joe McDonald: Concerts at People's Park

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-78-9

Country Joe McDonald, known still for his "Fixin' to Die Rag" (the Fish Cheer) in the Sixties—which made a huge splash at the original Woodstock Festival—is still an activist. He does benefits at People's Park in Berkeley, usually celebrating memorable events. This piece, which starts with a stirring music video, encompasses two separate concerts during which cut-ins of images from the Sixties, as well as images of current street problems, are heavily used.

A Festival of Bay Area Music (Relix Concert)

Color / sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-79-7

Commemorating an event sponsored by Relix magazine. Included is the legendary Ramblin' Jack Elliot, introductions by J.C. Flyer, and assorted Bay Area bands.

Elegy for a Street Survivor (Yume)

Color / Sound / 45 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-82-7

This piece follows the strange memorial that takes place after Yume, a homeless man who had been a "Buddhist hippie" dies of respiratory distress. His friends gather to perform odd rituals such as passing out his last pack of cigarettes, burning money in his honor, etc. As their feelings and tributes are expressed, the little knot of street people begins to take on the aspects of a Felliniesque procession. A fascinating addition to annals of contemporary sociology as well as an absorbing tale.

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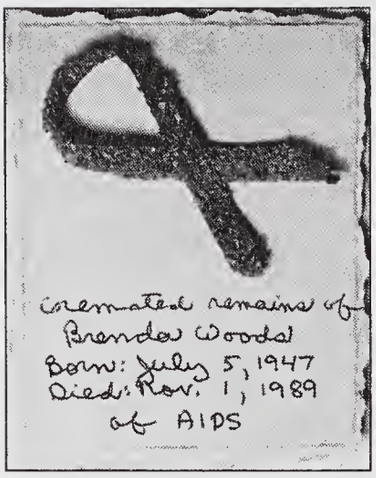
Runaways takes a close look at the lives and hopes of a group of young people who have left their homes all over the United States to come to Berkeley, a place which used to give a measure of entitlement to the homeless of all ages. They are all different, Raven, Sweetleaf, Jeremy, Doug and the others, but they share a rebellious nature, a combination of innocence and weary cynicism, and a tendency to get into trouble with the law (often not their fault) since citations for trespassing usually means they've found a place to sleep that isn't legal.



Lethal Weapons
The Visual Art of Barton Benes

Color / Sound / 20 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-76-2

An illustrated interview with an artist who had just had a museum retrospective, who uses his own H.I.V. positive blood as "art supplies." Barton Benes is known for his visual puns and politically rebellious treatment of money. After he tore up a three thousand dollar grant from the NY Council on the Arts, the US Treasury sent him a million dollars in shredded money which he used to create assemblages and collages. He states, "I can tear up a ten dollar bill, use it in my art pieces, and a bank will buy it for a thousand, perceiving the humor in the creation."

The Visual Art of Mark Weiman

Color / Sound / 60 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-38-2

A video retrospective of 25 years of paintings and drawings by Mark Weiman, currently working in Berkeley, California, but who started his career at Westbeth in New York City.

The Mysterious World of R. Patrick Sullivan

Color / Sound / 60 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-39-0

Paintings and sculptures by this Westbeth artist, remembered fondly by Norman Mailer after Patrick (his family calls him Robert) had acted in one of Mailer's plays. Sullivan's vision, influenced by Joseph Cornell, was often beauty on the Cross, a painful legacy of his Catholic childhood.

I Can't Give You Anything But Love

(drawings by claire burch)

& Solid Gold Illusion

(paintings and mixed media by claire burch)

Color/ Sound 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-34-7

"I liked the funky poem / drawing/ collage works of Claire Burch. Burch is something else. The main interest in Burch's show is a series of drawings incorporating fragments of family snapshots and matched to the pages of a manuscript of poems. Gallant and garrulous, the poems confront the trauma of the artist's loss with lines as likable as these"... my mother rages/get out and look for a new father for your children/ my children don't want a new father they want pizza." The graceful economical drawings meanwhile depict men and women sitting or lying around in a state of sensuous alertness. The intimacy is unforced and infectious...."

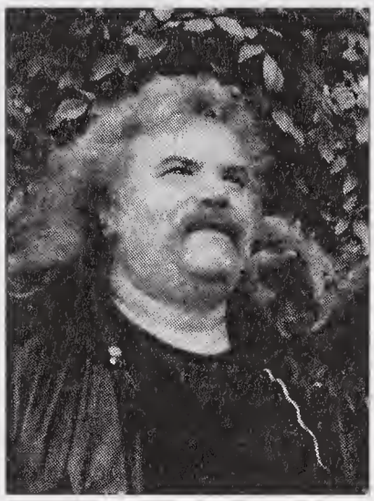
Peter Schjeldahl, *The New York Times*

Celebrate for the Rain

Featuring the Music of Elizabeth Burch

Color / Sound / 40 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-88-6

A young girl plays and sings her original songs at age fourteen. These haunting melodies help her to come to terms with her father's death when she was six, and the assorted mysteries of growing up at Westbeth in a non-mainstream New York City subculture. Both guitar and voice lead the listener to major emotions.



Guilty Until Proven Not Guilty—
The Nightmare Ordeal of Steve Weissner

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-81-9

This video tells the incredible story of a hippie dropout from Brooklyn, New York who, after years in the Far East and Southeast Asia, lands in the oldest prison in France, serving five years for a drug related "murder without intent." On appeal years later he is finally found not guilty, but through a fluke of French "justice" under Napoleonic laws, his eight to ten year sentence still stands. During this period the Gulf War occurs and he is the only Jewish American surrounded by Arabs, in Nimes, a four-hundred-year-old prison. We learn of his ill-fated relationship with Victoria Lockwood, a young model later to become sister-in-law to Princess Diana of England. Cured of his addiction the hard way, he returns to America as a street survivor, homeless and destitute but determined to start over.

Hello Goodbye Bob Sparks

Color / Sound / 90 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-93-2

A piece in four parts, archiving a march to People's Park in memory of longtime park and housing activist Bob Sparks. Much music by local musicians.

Helping Children at Risk
Occupational Therapy with Crack and Alcohol Addicted Children

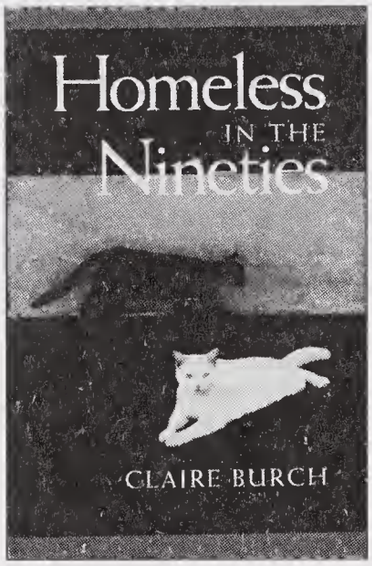
Color / Sound / 30 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-85-1

Rhoda Cohen, an occupational therapist with forty years of hospital experience, takes on a class of crack-addicted young children including those born with fetal alcohol syndrome, working with them individually each week. This piece follows her methods through one intense session. Helpful to families and teachers alike, the piece clearly demonstrates the therapist's innovative methods and how they help solve some of the learning difficulties faced by these children.

The History of American Funeral Directing

Color / Sound / 45 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-94-0

A heavily illustrated view of the world of mortuaries, embalming, caskets and funeral practices all over America, with a fascinating narration by an ex funeral director. Preceding the TV series *Six Feet Under.*



Homeless in the Nineties

Color / Sound / 40 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-33-9

The combined emphasis is on the friction between society and a marginalized group—a friction that is potentially explosive. This emphasis is characterized by the opening clip, James Baldwin addressing an audience in Berkeley, where Baldwin says: "If I ain't got nothing to lose, what are you going to do to me?"

The primary view of the situation is given via an impassioned interview at the Center for Independent Living in Berkeley with Margaret, a homeless Native American and mother of three. Includes original songs and images about homelessness.

Three Homeless Encampments

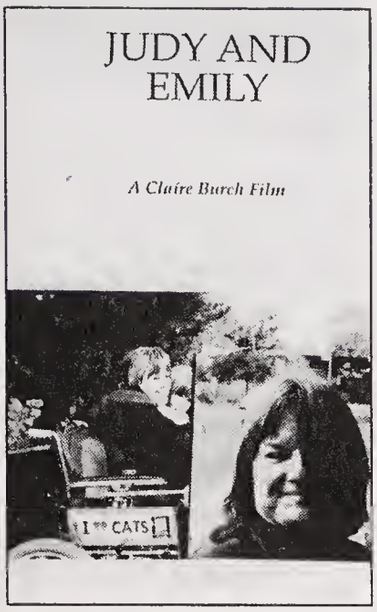
Color / Sound / 60 minutes / ISBN 1-58790-047-5

Documenting three homeless encampments in Berkeley, two in 2002, the last in March of 2003, these attempts at solutions bring to mind the camps in *Grapes of Wrath*, the story of California homelessness in the 1930's. In the second encampment, Civil Rights attorney Osha Neuman explains the paradoxes of local laws on sleeping outside, to a group of homeless people camping in protest in Berkeley's Martin Luther King Park in 2002. The ten day encampment was disbanded after Thanksgiving.

How Berkeley Can You Be?

Color / Sound / 60 minutes / ISBN 1-58790-050-5

A lighthearted romp along the streets of Berkeley, catching funny moments from the annual parade "How Berkeley Can You Be" in Berkeley, California.



Judy and Emily

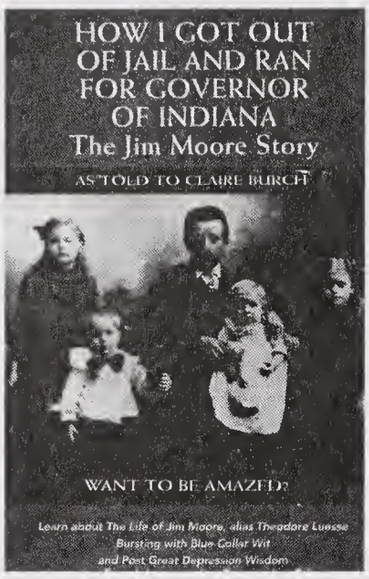
Color / Sound / 45 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-87-8

The video film Judy and Emily takes a thirty five minute memory stroll through the lives of a single mother and her daughter. Undaunted by what fate had thrown at them in the way of a congenital illness that keeps Judy in a wheelchair without the use of her hands, arms or legs, what she manages to put together in the way of a joy-seeking responsible and creative life is simply inspiring, though with its bitter lemon moments. With what grace and humor Judy serves soup to her friend the filmmaker, the serving ladle held securely in Judy's mouth as she deftly transfers food from pot to plate. Take a close look at beautiful Judy and her beautiful daughter, growing up before our very eyes. Don't define Judy by her disability but by her sometimes acerbic wit and gentle sarcasm inside the world of pet cats, pet dogs, pet plants and pet people she oversees.

Kenny & Georgia
The Story of a Homeless African American Couple

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-80-0

A fifty-eight minute video containing voiceover and images of Kenny and Georgia (she is pregnant), intercut with scenes and images of their friends and acquaintances, who are also homeless. A large part of the film consists of original music set to images of homeless break-ins, squats and gatherings in People's Park in Berkeley.



How I Got Out of Jail and Ran For Governor of Indiana: The Jim Moore Story

Color / Sound / 58 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-55-X

In 1931, Jim Moore, alias Theodore Luesse, went to prison for 21 months for "obstructing legal process." What he was doing was obstructing evictions in Indiana. Bursting with blue collar wit and post Great Depression wisdom.

Memoirs Of a Barbed Wire Surgeon

Color / Sound 58 minutes / ISBN 1-889059-91-9

This is a video about a survivor of the Bataan Death March in World War II who managed to continue practicing his profession all through their long ordeal, without instruments, anesthesia, antibiotics, medicines, or even simple supplies like bandages and antiseptics. When he performed an appendectomy with a broken Coka Cola bottle as a scalpel, the patient recovered.

Nepal at Risk
by Elizabeth Burch

Color / Sound / 60 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-68-1

Produced on location in the Himalayan Kingdom in 1992, this beautifully filmed video examines environmental problems that exist in Nepal, home to the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest. The World Bank lists Nepal as one of the poorest countries in the world, with a per-capita income of $160. Out of a population of over 19 million Nepalese, 90 percent are subsistence farmers scraping out a living in remote mountain villages. An increase in tourism, coupled with population growth and an inequality of resources, has had a negative impact on Nepal's fragile ecosystem. Threatened by environmental disaster, today, the Himalayan kingdom is no longer the "Shangri-La" touted in the tourist guidebooks.

As the need for answers to the eco-crisis in the Indian subcontinent increase, the Nepalese people work to reverse the environmental destruction of their land. Environmental experts find that only a holistic approach toward development will lead to sustainable growth accompanied by environmental protection. With poverty alleviation playing a critical role in the development process, plans to protect Nepal's natural resources must address local communities' basic needs. By highlighting environmental projects in the field, Nepal at Risk identifies several successful strategies in nature conservation. The program shows that when citizens are included in the development process, solutions toward saving the environment become possible.

Note: The filmmaker, now a professor at Sonoma State University in California, spent her teenage years at Westbeth, the artist's housing project in New York City, influenced by the four artists in this catalogue.

The History of the Tele Times

Color / Sound / 30 minutes / ISBN 1-58790-046-7

The Tele Times, an irreverent alternative magazine, was produced and edited by B.N. Duncan, later to found and produce – first with Wild Billy Wolf, later with Ace Backwards (also the creator of Twisted Image and a noted cartoonist) – the Telegraph Avenue Street Calendar. Back Issues of the Calendar as well as books by BN Duncan and Ace backwards are available from Twisted mage, P.O.B. 12642, Berkeley, CA 94712. email: acebackwords2002@yahoo.com.

Invitation To A Rave

Color / Sound / 60 minutes / ISBN 1-58790-049-1

These interviews and hard beat peeks at a few Bay Area Raves (those strobe lit ecstasy popped all nighters) give the viewer a bird's eye look at the Scene (which has clearly replaced the square dances of old) as a "now" experience.

The Murder In Our Family

Color / Sound / 45 minutes / ISBN 0-916147-52-5

A young woman dies, leaving two small children. Her husband remarries with the promise that his new wife will help raise them. She becomes progressively deranged and murders him along with the youngest child, as they sleep. An aunt, who adopted the surviving child, tells this chilling story of the near destruction of a middle class family. Narrated by the aunt who, at age ninety, is still unable to forget details of the event.

Claire Burch's books include *Stranger in the Family, Homeless in the Nineties, You Be The Mother Follies, Stranger on the Planet, Goodbye My Coney Island Baby* and others. Her writing has also appeared in LIFE (Special Report Cover Story), *Saturday Review, McCalls, Redbook, Good Housekeeping, Madamoiselle,* and numerous literary quarterlies and anthologies. Her paintings have been shown at museums and one man exhibits, receiving excellent reviews from *The New York Times*, etc.

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Reviews

Claire Burch writes in a style that compels you to be alert, while it amuses and awakens you. Like all poets of distinguished capacity, Burch is skeptical of the orthodox. thus she is always teasing with our given perceptions of reality, understanding that if the orthodox functions to do anything, it is to conceal rather than reveal the truth.

Moreover, Burch is an excellent narrative poet. Her sequences are given lyric continuity and dramatic coherence through the exploration of the thought and action of two major characters, Babe and 606. But this coherence and dramatic effect comes mainly through Babe, the longest survivor. It is Babe who mainly reveals to us what it is that makes the dilemmas of life so weighty, who carries us through the great range of human anxieties, and who does manage to give us wisdom without enveloping it in sophistry. Rarely giving us an overwrought phrase, Burch writes poetry with a lyrical and dramatic ease that makes you want to become a part of her thought and her craft. In her reality, life is a poetic stance, a stance of continuous revelation and astonishment, of paradox and contradiction made bare, and of hypocrisy made comic and ungilded."

Erskine Peters, Professor of English, University of Notre Dame

"I was much impressed by your poems, more impressed than before since now you has given order to the collection. They are intensely personal. Sometimes they make me feel that you have torn a bleeding heart from a breast, like an Aztec priest, except that the heart is your own. The images are moving and effective.

Malcolm Cowley

"Claire Burch's work is carried in fierce lyric directness into the life of the reader. These words are a spear. Also — they should be published at once. I have a strong feeling that many people — like me — are waiting for them."

Muriel Rukeyser

Homeless in the Nineties
Collected Poetry: 1962–1992

Including Drawings and Paintings by the Author

Poetry / $17.95 paper / 650 pages / 5.5" x 8.5" / ISBN: 0-916147-19-3

"I became easily engaged as I began to read Claire Burch's poetry At first, I was afraid to tackle it because I thought I wouldn't be able to handle such a massive volume. But as I made my way into it, and began to be taken in by her most provocative turn of mind, and her interesting presentation of situations, I was glad that there was lots of it and there was always more to come. I knew immediately that I was on an enchanting odyssey, and that when I finished I would look forward to taking the adventure again and again." — Erskine Peters

Goodbye My Coney Island Baby

Novel / $19.95 paper / 329 pages / 6" x 9" / ISBN: 0-916147-14-2

Somewhere in the shadow zone between the Beat Generation and the Postmodern Era, lies this witty, poignant, compassionate, blunt, and daring novel about a single mother, her family and her relationships. The central character, Babe, is the hub from which a multitude of spokes radiate, such as 606, the responsible father of her children, her problem daughter, Joanne, and the bizarre collection of therapists called The Crisis Association.

With all these perspectives, Goodbye My Coney Island Baby is an intensely intimate look at one woman's world from every angle at once, like a cubist painting of the mind. From the emotive illuminating short scenes of Part One to a realm of prose in the tradition of Kerouac, Faulkner and Gertrude Stein of Part Two, Goodbye My Coney Island Baby is disturbing and uplifting literature with both grit and punch.

You Be the Mother Follies

Novel / $14.95 paper / 142 pages / 6" x 9" / ISBN: 0-916147-13-4

"You Be the Mother Follies is about two women linked across time by the common bond of stressful motherhood. Emma Darwin is the wife of Charles Darwin, and Charles is never around. Off trotting around the Galapagos and other places, Charles is no help at all in raising their children. After ingesting some stale bread pudding (probably ergot tainted), Emma begins to hallucinate that she is another Emma, on welfare in the 1970's in New York, trying to get child support from an arrant husband who has run off with a 'Flotsam jetsam floozie.' Under this stress, it's no wonder that this twentieth century Emma would come back to believe she is Emma Darwin, actively corresponding with a man a hundred years dead. This delightful tale of two Emmas unfolds in letters and dialogue between husband and wife, a combination of arcane jive talk and contemporary slang. Actually the story of divorce, abandonment, and the toil of a single mother couldn't be more relevant to our times.

This fantasy novel about Emma Wedgewood, wife of Charles Darwin, centers around her hallucinative mind. Her grief at the death of their child Annie is a given bizarre twist by some egrot mold on the bread she uses for her pudding; her world becomes the twentieth century. Burch presents this fantasy as a collage of Emma's hallucinogenic reports; her husband's sympathetic but tangential letters — which contain fragments from Darwin's Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals; and contributions from other characters such as the social worker Dorothy (Beauty) Pageant, and Emma's unusual later offspring, Ralph Waldo achieves a more fortunate ration of brain size to body weight at a carnival where he is split into two precocious individuals. the technique is striking. The reports of Emma's caseworker place the wife among us, struggling with her schizophrenia, her kids, and her ex (Darwin) who wont fork over past due child support payments. The contemporary slang jolts the reader in its juxtaposition to Darwinian ideas. The unexpected is well presented here."

Michael Healy, BEST SELLERS, The Monthly Book Review

Stranger in the Family
A Guide to Living With the Emotionally Disturbed

Psychology / $19.95 paper / 214 pages / 5.5" x 8.5" / ISBN: 0-916147-70-3

Originally published in 1972 by Bobbs Merrill, the classic *Stranger In the Family: A guide to Living With the Emotionally Disturbed* remains an innovative work on a controversial subject. Ms. Burch defines and redefines sanity in ways which work better for community tolerance, implying that sometimes sanity consists of "knowing who to freak out in front of." This book is far and away the most radical primer on home care that has ever appeared. Out of familiarity with most psychiatric and ant-psychiatry movements, she has written a deeply compassionate, straightforward and truly healthful book with a point of view that is filled with hope for families.

Endorsed by the American Psychiatric Association with an introduction by Dr. Walter Barton, former medical Director of the Association.

"Claire Burch has done the 'impossible'. She has explicated the diverse, controversial, multi-disciplinary, multifaceted and often confused field of mental disorder in a clear, amazingly complete, readable and yet well documented way."
Lester Gelb, M.D., Clinical Director Maimonides Community Mental Health Center

"In this much needed volume Calire Burch has provided an important service for those who have had to cope in everyday life with the 'different', the troubled, the sometimes troublesome individuals both in and out of the home. She has done for families of the emotionally disturbed what Benjamin Spock did for those responsible for Baby and Child Care."
Reginald Lourie, Director of Psychiatry, Children's Hospital, District of Columbia

"I have read *Stranger In The Family* and it speaks in a poetic sense about the nature of growing, of the mind, and about family interrelationships. It was moving and illuminating." **Joseph Chaiken, Director of Open Theater, N.Y.**

"The book reflects enormous care and effort in surveying the vast field of psychiatry and related disciplines. Ms. Burch has done a magnificent job in leading the reader through the maze of ambiguities, uncertainities and contradictions thqt surround the solid date of this field. Any relative of a patient would bnefit from reading this thoughtful and rewarding book. I recommend it highly.:

Dana Farnsworth, M.D., Director, harard Hearth Services

Strangers on the Planet: The Small Book of Laurie

Psychology / $12.95 paper / 175 pages / 5.5" x 8.5" / ISBN: 0-916147-67-3

A mother remembers her adopted child, abandoned by her birth mother at a month, neglected in foster care, who never managed to adjust to the needs of others, or have a happy life. Given the frightening and self-fulfilling prophecy diagnosis of child schizophrenia in infancy, Laurie never made it back, and her continuing problems splintered her adoptive family. Later she was repeatedly told that she had a "dual diagnosis," mental illness and chemical dependance. Being loved was not enough.

"The world is filled with what they never told us – sexual problems, the bust, bad trips. And now the barriers are breaking down because people who have been there are beginning to tell us what it's like for them and how to be a person in the midst of it. In this sense Claire Burch's book pioneers in how to live with trouble nobody ever asked for but trouble that needs to be looked at with all the bravery and insight at our command."

Arthur Sainer, Playwright and Village Voice Drama Critic

What Really Killed Rosebud?

Investigative Report / $10.00 paper / 120 pages / 5.5" x 8.5" / ISBN: 0-916147-69-X

This book with accompanying video listed earlier, chronicles an incident in 1992. A homeless young girl of nineteen in a severe depression, desperate and not knowing where she can sleep so as to not be harassed by police, breaks into a mansion of the chancellor of a prestigious university and is shot to death by an Oakland policeman. Autopsy reports tell a story quite different from the one given to the media. The book is a compassionate investigative record of the public and private reaction to the way in which the incident was handled, resulting in local riots and, several years later, the formation of a memorial activist group, "The August 25th CD Brigade." The C.D. in the name had a double meaning from the slogan "Civil Disobedience is Civil Defense." Packed with in-depth interviews and a stream-of-consciousness reconstruction of the dangerous event.

How I Got Out of Jail
and Ran for Governor of Indiana
The Jim Moore Story As Told To Claire Burch

Biography / $10.00 paper / 200 pages / 5.5" x 8.5" / ISBN: 0-916147-66-5

Jim Moore, although ninety-five years old, is still active in developing ideas that will benefit people. Despite partial blindness and a pacemaker he delivers newspapers every day, plans and distributes leaflets, and speaks out wherever he goes against poverty and injustice.

In 1931, under his birth name of Theodore Lusesse, he went to prison for 21 months for "obscuring legal process". What he was obstructing were evictions in Indiana during the Great Depression. he obstructed evictions of jobless people because of his deep belief that every person has the right to live, just because he's alive. All his arrests have been for a social cause. Since the government protects the habitats of animal life, it was Jim's belief that this same protection should extend to human beings. Salty blue collar language and wit.

Memoirs of a Barbed Wire Surgeon
by Elmer Shabart M.D., FACS
One Surgeon's Incredible Legacy as a Prisoner of the Japanese During World War II
edited by Claire Burch

Interview / $10.00 Paper / 180 pages / 5.5" x 8.5" / ISBN: 1-889059-02-1

This is a book by a survivor of the Bataan Death March in World War II who managed to continue practicing his profession all through their long ordeal, without instruments, aesthetics, antibiotics, medicines or even simple supplies like bandages and antiseptics. Dr. Shabart, first as a young man who takes his Hippocratic Oath seriously, later as a surgeon reflecting on how they somehow managed to stay alive, takes us on a frightening and revealing journey that begins before the fall of Bataan and actually carries us through the Death March.

Please add postage and handling fee of $4.00 for the first video and $1.00 for each additional video. (California residents please add 8.25% sales tax.) Return the accompanying order form along with check, money order or charge card information (Mastercard or Visa only) to Regent Press (see below)

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Art and Education Media Film Archives

An archive of approximately six thousand hours of unedited footage filmed by Claire Burch during the period from 1981 to the present currently exists. It is of sociological and historical value in that it chronicles the life stories of many street survivors, along with events at People's Park and Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley, California. These include concerts, memorials, street fights, busts, chronicles of runaways, the history of the Tele Times and the Telegraph Avenue Street Calendar plus catalogued edited and partly edited "reality" footage, all entered and available on a database. This material can be licensed or purchased individually or as an entire archive suitable for library or university collections.

www.claireburch.com - available through Regent Press